

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT, NEUCHATEL - QUARTERLY REPORT

DIVISION : PROCESS DEVELOPMENT
SUBJECT TITLE : SPITZWEG
PERIOD COVERED : APRIL - JUNE 1990
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KEYWORDS : spitzweg, berlin, burley, casing, temperature,
profile, capacity

OBJECTIVES

In view of the PM-USA/Europe Burley treatment standardization program requested by PM-EEC AOD for enhancement of product uniformity, trials are to be carried out in the Berlin primary. The two process parameters concerned are :

- a) Concentrated Burley spray.
- b) Lower drying temperatures and profile changes.

Test definition and process parameters are co-ordinated between QA and Process Development, analytical follow-up and subjective evaluation with local and HQ leaf departments.

STATUS

Due to drying capacity and product uniformity needs, it was decided to split the project into two parts for Berlin.

- 1) Burley drying capacity increase and concentrated Burley spray.
- 2) Change of present Burley drying air temperature profile.

With reference to the Jan. - March status report the following activities have taken place.

The first part of the project, i.e. Burley drying capacity increase of 20% and application of concentrated Burley spray on the old dryer has been completed.

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The appropriate test and reference runs ML039 (Marlboro DB) and PM037 (Marlboro Lights) were carried out in week 20. Test and reference cigarettes were subjected to taste evaluation (Panels A and B) and the smoke analysis was done in the Munich smoke lab. Detailed evaluation reports were issued by Berlin QA and analytical services Munich respectively.

Conclusion:

Both objectives of Part one, i.e. capacity increase and application of concentrated Burley spray were fully achieved and accepted by Panels A and B. No significant differences regarding physical and smoke parameters of tobacco and cigarettes were seen. Taste evaluation was positive.

PLANS

- Co-ordination of test plan with QA Berlin.
- Co-ordination with R&D Microbiological section.
- July 1990, qualification of first new Burley dryer (concentrated Burley casing and temperature profile as old dryer), with analytical follow-up and subjective evaluation (Panel A/consumer test).
- After qualification of first new dryer, the old dryer will be dismantled and the second new dryer installed and qualified.
- Monitoring of the Burley temperature profile (referred to in the last quarterly report) is to be carried out as soon as the prerequisites are met.

Part Two :

- First quarter 1991, qualification run of second new Burley dryer with concentrated Burley casing and lower temperature profile, analytical follow-up and subjective evaluation (Panel A/consumer test).
- Drying temperature profile of second qualified dryer will be applied to the first dryer.

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